

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

LEE ANDREW REED,

Plaintiff,

No. CIV S-04-0936 LKK GGH P

vs.

S. HAFERKAMP, et al.,

ORDER

Defendants.

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Plaintiff is a state prisoner proceeding pro se with a civil rights action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983. On April 4, 2005, the court granted plaintiff thirty days to file an amended complaint. The court further ordered defendants to respond to the amended complaint within thirty days of service. On April 13, 2005, plaintiff filed an amended complaint containing proper proof of service. Thirty days passed and defendants did not file a response.

Although defendants did not respond to the amended complaint as ordered, the court will screen it. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(court may dismiss case at any time if it determines that it fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted).

Again named as defendants are Dr. Turella, Hammond and Dr. Penner. Also named as defendants for the first time are the state of California and the California Department of Corrections. Plaintiff appears to again be alleging violation of his Eighth Amendment right to

adequate medical care. Plaintiff also alleges a violation of the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). Plaintiff states that he is seeking injunctive relief and damages.

The Civil Rights Act under which this action was filed provides as follows:

Every person who, under color of [state law] . . . subjects, or causes to be subjected, any citizen of the United States . . . to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities secured by the Constitution . . . shall be liable to the party injured in an action at law, suit in equity, or other proper proceeding for redress.

42 U.S.C. § 1983. The statute requires that there be an actual connection or link between the actions of the defendants and the deprivation alleged to have been suffered by plaintiff. See Monell v. Department of Social Servs., 436 U.S. 658 (1978); Rizzo v. Goode, 423 U.S. 362 (1976). “A person ‘subjects’ another to the deprivation of a constitutional right, within the meaning of § 1983, if he does an affirmative act, participates in another's affirmative acts or omits to perform an act which he is legally required to do that causes the deprivation of which complaint is made.” Johnson v. Duffy, 588 F.2d 740, 743 (9th Cir. 1978).

Moreover, supervisory personnel are generally not liable under § 1983 for the actions of their employees under a theory of respondeat superior and, therefore, when a named defendant holds a supervisory position, the causal link between him and the claimed constitutional violation must be specifically alleged. See Fayle v. Stapley, 607 F.2d 858, 862 (9th Cir. 1979); Mosher v. Saalfeld, 589 F.2d 438, 441 (9th Cir. 1978), cert. denied, 442 U.S. 941 (1979). Vague and conclusory allegations concerning the involvement of official personnel in civil rights violations are not sufficient. See Ivey v. Board of Regents, 673 F.2d 266, 268 (9th Cir. 1982).

The amended complaint does not link any of the individually named defendants (Penner, Turella and Hammond) to the alleged inadequate medical care. In order to state a claim for damages against these defendants, plaintiff must allege how each defendant violated his constitutional rights. For example, plaintiff alleges that he did not receive physical therapy but does not describe how any of the defendants was involved in this alleged deprivation.

1 Accordingly, the claim for damages against these defendants is dismissed.

2 Plaintiff has also failed to state a claim for injunctive relief against the
3 individually named defendants. Just as it is not necessary to allege Monell¹ policy grounds when
4 suing a state or municipal official in his or her official capacity for injunctive relief related to a
5 procedure of a state entity, Chaloux v. Killeen, 886 F.2d 247 (9th Cir. 1989), it follows that it is
6 not necessary to allege the personal involvement of a state official when plaintiffs are attacking a
7 state procedure on federal grounds that relates in some way to the job duties of the named
8 defendant. All that is required is that the complaint name an official who could appropriately
9 respond to a court order on injunctive relief should one ever be issued. Harrington v. Grayson,
10 764 F. Supp. 464, 475-477 (E.D.Mich. 1991); Malik v. Tanner, 697 F. Supp. 1294, 1304
11 (S.D.N.Y. 1988). (“Furthermore, a claim for injunctive relief, as opposed to monetary relief,
12 may be made on a theory of respondeat superior in a § 1983 action.”); Fox Valley Reproductive
13 Health Care v. Arft, 454 F. Supp. 784, 786 (E.D. Wis. 1978). See also, Hoptowit v. Spellman,
14 753 F.2d 779 (9th Cir. 1985), permitting an injunctive relief suit to continue against an official’s
15 successors despite objection that the successors had not personally engaged in the same practice
16 that had led to the suit. However, because a suit against an official in his or her official capacity
17 is a suit against the state, policy or procedure of the state must be at issue in a claim for official
18 capacity injunctive relief. Haber v. Melo, 502 U.S. 21, 25, 112 S. Ct. 358, 361-62 (1991).

19 Plaintiff does not allege that the inadequate medical care he received was pursuant
20 to a state policy or procedure. Accordingly, the claim for injunctive relief against defendants
21 Turella, Hammond and Dr. Penner is dismissed.

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26 ¹ Monell v. Department of Social Servs., 436 U.S. 658, 98 S. Ct. 2018 (1978).

1 In the April 4, 2005, order, the court gave plaintiff leave to amend to name the
2 appropriate state entity with respect to his ADA claim. As discussed in the April 4, 2004, order,
3 plaintiff cannot seek damages pursuant to the ADA against the defendants in their individual
4 capacities. Eason v Clark County School Dist., 303 F.3d 1137, 1144 (9th Cir. 2002), citing
5 Garcia v. S.U.N.Y. Health, 280 F.3d 98, 107 (2nd Cir. 2001). However, plaintiff may bring a
6 claim pursuant to Title II of the ADA against state entities for injunctive relief and damages.
7 Phiffer v. Columbia River Correctional Institute, 384 F.3d 791 (9th Cir. 2004). Plaintiff's claims
8 against defendants State of California and the Department of Corrections are apparently based on
9 the ADA.

10 The only allegations in the amended complaint which the court finds as having
11 been made in support of the ADA claim are that prison officials have not provided plaintiff with
12 a job because of his disability. Because this claim may state a colorable claim for relief, it is not
13 dismissed. But see White v. Colorado, 82 F.3d 364, 367 (10th Cir. 1996)(ADA does not apply to
14 prison employment); cf. Hale v. Arizona, 993 F.2d 1387, 1392-98 (9th Cir. 1993)(Fair Labor
15 Standards Act does not apply to most prison jobs).

16 For the reasons discussed above, the claims against defendants Turella, Hammond
17 and Dr. Penner are dismissed with leave to file a second amended complaint. If plaintiff files a
18 second amended complaint, he must include his claims against all defendants. If plaintiff does
19 not file a second amended complaint, the court will order service of defendants State of
20 California and California Department of Corrections as to plaintiff's ADA claim contained in the
21 amended complaint.

22 Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the claims against defendants
23 Turella, Hammond and Penner contained in the amended complaint filed April 13, 2005, are
24 dismissed; plaintiff is granted thirty days from the date of this order to file a second amended
25 complaint; if plaintiff does not file a second amended complaint, the court will order service of
26 defendants State of California and California Department of Corrections as to plaintiff's ADA

1 claim; defendants are not required to respond to the second amended complaint until ordered to
2 by the court.

3 DATED: 6/17/05

/s/ Gregory G. Hollows

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5 GREGORY G. HOLLOWS
6 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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